D
R
 A
 F
 T

OUTLINE OF OCR HISTORY

1952-1966

A

20 December 1968

I. REFINING THE CENTRAL REFERENCE CONCEPT

A. Background, prior to 1952. Tie-in with previous history.

(Denied the opportunity to develop "services of common concern" except in the field of biographic intelligence, OCD concentrates on building up a first-class, all available source reference facility for CIA analysts. Tacit recognition given by IAC analysts of OCD eminence in this area, but formal recognition as an intelligence community service never authorized.)

B. Analogy of development.

(OCD as a central intelligence document processing system in the sense that it is receiving in one place most of the reporting of the intelligence community is a new concept. First five years, 1947-1952, were spent, like manufacturer of a unique product, in perfecting a design, testing it, training staff to operate and "sell" it; designers working on refinements constantly, planning for a new and better model, modernizing, including changing name.)

II. PRESSURES FOR CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL REFERENCE

A. Faster, more comprehensive service required by users.

(All source response, utilization of computers as a means.)

B. Size of files; increase in intake.

(Staggering growth of files, slower, cumbersome to manipulate.)

C. Selectivity versus all-inclusiveness.

(Related to II.A above, but include, among others, NODEX, cables, etc.)

D. Special Surveys and Studies made of OCR.

(At least 20 surveys of OCR, conducted by non-OCR personnel but to which OCR personnel contributed as required, in the period 1947-1966.)

E. Budgetary considerations.

(Present services too costly; insatiable need for more research personnel; sizable outlay for machines.)

SECRET

D
R
A
F
T

-2-

F. Image of OCR.

(This theme has been over-played somewhat. Performance and the caliber of personnel are the best criteria for judgment of OCR.)

III. INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEMS IN OCR.

A. Document Flow.

(Improvements in Intellofax system; honing, sharpening your tools: ISC, IPI, DARE, etc.)

B. Automation Development Group.

C. Minicard

(Testing and abandonment)

D. Walnut

(For possible OCR adaptation)

E. CHIVE

(Testing, evaluation, etc.)

IV. COLLECTION AND PROCUREMENT

A. Defining Collection and Role of OCR.

B. Documents, incl. biographic.

C. Books, periodicals, newspapers.

D. Films, photographs, videotape.

E. Methods of Procurement, sources.

F. Interagency coordination.

SECRET

SECRET

D
R
A
F
T

-3-

V. CUSTOMER SUPPORT AND RELATIONS

A. Resolution of earlier problems, such as, dissemination, etc.

B. Coordination of requirements.

(Establishment of Requirements Registry)

C. Diminishing liaison activities in OCR.

D. Community efforts.

(AHIP, CODIB, PROCIB, SCIPS, etc.)

E. Various reports on customer needs.

25X1A9a
(▮▮▮▮ report, Library Consultants' Report, 25X1A9a ▮▮▮▮, etc.)

F. Reference services.

(Include Library, SR, IRG, etc.)

G. Film showings, Accessions Lists, Briefings, etc.

VI. SELECTED SPECIAL OCR PROGRAMS

A. Travel Folder Program

B. Mechanical Translation

C. Radio Frequency Usage

D. Exploitation of Government Sources

E. Soviet Literature

F. East European Literature

G. Liaison with Foreign Intelligence Representatives

H. Captured Documents

25X1A6a
I. ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮

SECRET

D
R
A
F
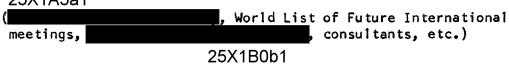T

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS

    A. Budget

    B. Personnel

       (Recruiting problems, fight for better salaries, training,
       Career Board, vacancy notice system, etc.)

    C. Space problems, physical plant

       (Inadequacies of quarters before move to new building, preparation
       for the move, the move itself)

    D. External projects, contracts
      25X1A5a1
      (███████████████, World List of Future International
      meetings, ████████████████, consultants, etc.)
                   25X1B0b1

VIII. PREPARATION FOR THE FUTURE

    A. Goals and ambitions

IX. APPENDIX

    A. Index

  ✓ B. Chronology of Major Events in the History of OCR, 1952-1966.

  ✓ C. Charts (statistics, man-power, etc.)

    D. List of OCR Division, Staff Chiefs and above, together with their
       tour of duty in OCR.

    E. Personnel Interviewed and Contributors to the OCR History

  ✓ F. List of Studies of OCD/OCR/CRS, 1946-1966.

    G. Monographs

       (cf. Attachment)

25X1A9a
████████████████

20 December 1968